

# Atherton Township Bird Species

Australian Brush-turkey	Collared Sparrowhawk	Azure Kingfisher	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	Common Myna - I	Chestnut-breasted Mannikin
Orange-footed Scrubfowl	Grey Goshawk	Laughing Kookaburra	Barred Cuckoo-shrike	Mistletoebird	House Sparrow - I
Stubble Quail	Spotted Harrier	Forest Kingfisher	Cicadabird	Olive-backed Sunbird	<b>167 species</b>
Brown Quail	Swamp Harrier	Sacred Kingfisher	White-winged Triller	Double-barred Finch	E - Wet Tropics endemics
Magpie Goose	Wedge-tailed Eagle	Rainbow Bee-eater	Varied Triller	Red-browed Finch	I - Introduced birds
Plumed Whistling-Duck	Little Eagle	Dollarbird	Crested Shrike-tit	Nutmeg Mannikin - I	
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Nankeen Kestrel	White-throated Treecreeper	Golden Whistler		
Pacific Black Duck	Brown Falcon	Spotted Catbird	Rufous Whistler		
Rock Dove - I	Australian Hobby	Golden Bowerbird - E	Little Shrike-thrush		
White-headed Pigeon	Peregrine Falcon	Satin Bowerbird	Bower's Shrike-thrush - E		
Spotted Dove - I	Sarus Crane	Red-backed Fairy-wren	Grey Shrike-thrush		
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Brolga	White-browed Scrubwren	Australasian Figbird		
Emerald Dove	Purple Swamphen	Atherton Scrubwren - E	Olive-backed Oriole		
Peaceful Dove	Red-necked Crake	Large-billed Scrubwren	White-breasted Woodswallow		
Bar-shouldered Dove	Buff-banded Rail	Brown Gerygone	Pied Butcherbird		
Wompoo Fruit-Dove	Pale-vented Bush-hen	Fairy Gerygone	Australian Magpie		
Superb Fruit-Dove	Bush Stone-curlew	White-throated Gerygone	Pied Currawong		
Topknot Pigeon	Masked Lapwing	Spotted Pardalote	Spangled Drongo		
Large-tailed Nightjar	Sooty Tern	Striated Pardalote	Rufous Fantail		
Australian Owlet-Nightjar	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Eastern Spinebill	Grey Fantail		
Australian Swiftlet	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Lewin's Honeyeater	Willie Wagtail		
White-throated Needletail	Rainbow Lorikeet	Bridled Honeyeater - E	Torresian Crow		
Fork-tailed Swift	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Leaden Flycatcher		
Australasian Darter	Little Lorikeet	Yellow Honeyeater	Satin Flycatcher		
Little Pied Cormorant	Double-eyed Fig-Parrot	Noisy Miner	Black-faced Monarch		
Australian Pelican	Australian King-Parrot	Brown-backed Honeyeater	Spectacled Monarch		
White-necked Heron	Crimson Rosella	Dusky Honeyeater	Magpie-lark		
White-faced Heron	Pale-headed Rosella	Scarlet Honeyeater	Pied Monarch - E		
Nankeen Night-Heron	Pheasant Coucal	Banded Honeyeater	Yellow-breasted Boatbill		
Australian White Ibis	Eastern Koel	Brown Honeyeater	Victoria's Riflebird - E		
Straw-necked Ibis	Channel-billed Cuckoo	White-cheeked Honeyeater	Pale-yellow Robin		
Royal Spoonbill	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	White-throated Honeyeater	Eastern Yellow Robin		
Black-shouldered Kite	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	White-naped Honeyeater	Grey-headed Robin - E		
Square-tailed Kite	Little Bronze-Cuckoo	Blue-faced Honeyeater	Golden-headed Cisticola		
Pacific Baza	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Noisy Friarbird	Tawny Grassbird		
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Brush Cuckoo	Little Friarbird	Silvereye		
Whistling Kite	Oriental Cuckoo	Macleay's Honeyeater - E	Welcome Swallow		
Brahminy Kite	Barking Owl	Eastern Whipbird	Fairy Martin		
Black Kite	Southern Boobook	Varied Sittella	Tree Martin		
Brown Goshawk	Eastern Barn Owl	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Metallic Starling		

Bush Stone-curlews, many honeyeaters, Leaden Flycatcher and Spotted Pardalote are among species that nest in Atherton gardens. More specialised birds like Double-Eyed Fig-Parrot breed in rainforest remnants but regularly feed in fruiting trees, especially native figs, in the township.

Many raptors (birds of prey) hunt high over town or along creek lines. Bridled Honeyeaters and young Golden Bowerbirds are two Wet Tropics endemic birds that visit town from larger rainforest areas in winter (Dry, non-breeding season). In winter also, Sarus Cranes can be conspicuous flying low over town en route to nearby Hasties Swamp - see BANQ Brochure No 10.

## ***New or unusual sightings in Atherton?***

### ***Contact us!***

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### ***'Birding with a purpose'***

This list is based on BANQ surveys on Prior's Creek, Atherton with extra records by G Holmes. Names and taxonomic order follow *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* by L Christidis and W E Boles (CSIRO, Melbourne, 2008). Produced for BANQ by E Scambler.

# WHO ARE WE?

**Birds Australia North Queensland (BANQ)** is a regional group of the national organisation Birds Australia (Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union, RAOU), formed in 1901 - the oldest Australian society concerned with national and international bird study and conservation.

The BANQ area covers Queensland from Ayr north to the Torres Strait Islands and west to the Northern Territory border. Area representatives are based in Townsville, Mount Isa, Cairns, Atherton Tableland, Mossman/ Daintree, and Cape York.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter *Contact Call* and enjoy Australia's best bird magazine *Wingspan*. Regular field trips and campouts cater for all levels of expertise from beginner to professional and emphasise fun as well as worthwhile projects.

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# INFORMATION

*Atherton* is the centre of an important agricultural district relying mainly on basalt volcanic soils, close to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. A surprising range of birdlife can be seen within the Township in remnants of eucalypt woodland, rare dry "Mabi" rainforest, street trees and private gardens. Most of the rainforest is along Prior's and Mazlin Creeks and on Halloran's Hill, an extinct volcanic crater.

Halloran's Hill Conservation Park covers 25.4ha and has over 100 bird species, as well as mammals such as Red-legged Pademelon. National Park field staff have replanted degraded rainforest sections and use fire to protect the eucalypt woodland from invading weeds and rainforest.

## Location and Facilities

17°15'49"S 145°28'41"E (GDA 94)

84km SW of Cairns via the Gillies Highway

100km SW of Cairns via Kuranda and Kennedy Highway

**Atherton Tableland Information Centre  
Cnr Silo Rd & Main St/Herberton Rd**

**Ph. (07) 4091 4222**

**[www.athertoninformationcentre.com.au](http://www.athertoninformationcentre.com.au)**

Atherton is a medium-sized town with extensive accommodation and shopping facilities. The Halloran's Hill Conservation Park walking track (1.4km one-way) starts at the council picnic area in Maunds Rd near Prior's Creek, with tables, BBQs, playground and toilets.

The track continues up Halloran's Hill, down into the crater, then uphill again to a lookout with displays and extensive views of the Tableland and mountain ranges.

# ATHERTON TOWNSHIP

## Atherton Tableland

### Far North Queensland

## Birds Australia North Queensland

### Birding Information and Species List

No 19



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